

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,
and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (original): An information acquisition device which
2 acquires digital information functioning by executing a
3 control program stored in program memory, comprising:
4 a first transmission unit having directivity and
5 transmitting by wireless an information request signal to be
6 transmitted in a direction of the directivity;
7 an information addition unit adding at least one piece of
8 address information to the information request signal to be
9 transmitted;
10 a reception unit receiving a radio signal transmitted by
11 wireless in response to the information request signal
12 transmitted by the first transmission unit, and acquiring
13 information contained in the signal;
14 an information storage unit which is built in the
15 information acquisition device or attached to the device as
16 removable from the device, and can store all or a part of
17 information acquired by the reception unit; and
18 an operation unit issuing an instruction to start an
19 information requesting operation, wherein
20 the reception unit has no directivity or has broader
21 directivity than the first transmission unit.

1 Claim 2 (original): The device according to claim 1, wherein
2 the first transmission unit transmits by wireless a
3 signal using an electromagnetic wave including light and a
4 sound wave including ultrasonic.

1 Claim 3 (original): The device according to claim 2, wherein

2 an address added by the information addition unit to an
3 information request signal is an own address as an address of
4 the reception unit of the information acquisition device.

1 Claim 4 (original): The device according to claim 3, wherein
2 the address added by the information addition unit to an
3 information request signal includes an address different from
4 the address of the reception unit of the information
5 acquisition device.

1 Claim 5 (original): The device according to claim 3, further
2 comprising
3 an information presentation unit presenting all or a part
4 of information stored in the information storage unit or
5 information acquired by the reception unit.

1 Claim 6 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising
3 an information transmission unit externally transmitting
4 information stored in the information storage unit and
5 information acquired by the reception unit.

1 Claim 7 (original): The device according to claim 6, further
2 comprising
3 a selection unit selecting the information stored in the
4 information storage unit, wherein
5 the information transmission unit externally transmits
6 the information selected by the selection unit.

1 Claim 8 (original): The device according to claim 6, wherein
2 the information transmission unit transmits information
3 to an address indicating a predetermined destination.

1 Claim 9 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising

3 a setting unit setting information relating to a type of
4 information received and acquired by the reception unit,
5 wherein

6 the information addition unit further adds information
7 relating to a type of information set by the setting unit to
8 the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 10 (original): The device according to claim 9, further
2 comprising

3 an information screen unit screening the information
4 received by the reception unit, wherein:

5 information to be acquired is screened by the information
6 screen unit from the information received by the reception
7 unit, and the screened information is stored in the
8 information storage unit.

1 Claim 11 (original): The device according to claim 10,
2 wherein

3 screening standards of the information screened by the
4 information screen unit designate a type of information set by
5 the setting unit, and only the information of the type set by
6 the setting unit is stored in the information storage unit.

1 Claim 12 (original): The device according to claim 9, wherein
2 the information relating to the type of identification
3 relates to at least one of a size of information, a type of
4 information, a style of information, a file format of
5 information, a content of information, and a field of
6 information.

1 Claim 13 (original): The device according to claim 9, wherein
2 the information relating to a type of information refers
3 to information indicating a same target and a different type
4 of information capacity.

1 Claim 14 (original): The device according to claim 13,
2 wherein

3 the information relating to a type of information
4 includes information relating to at least one type of common
5 information, summary information obtained by summarizing the
6 common information, and the address information in a network
7 containing information.

1 Claim 15 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising:

3 a server address extraction unit extracting a server
4 address designating an information providing source contained
5 in the information acquired by the reception unit; and
6 a second transmission unit transmitting a signal in a
7 style different from a style of the first transmission unit.

1 Claim 16 (original): The device according to claim 15,
2 wherein

3 the second transmission unit transmits by wireless a signal
4 using an electromagnetic wave including light and a sound wave
5 including ultrasonic, and the signal transmitted by wireless
6 from the second transmission unit has no directivity or has
7 broader directivity than the signal transmitted by the first
8 transmission unit.

1 Claim 17 (original): The device according to claim 16,
2 wherein

3 when the information received by the reception unit is
4 address information in a network in which the information
5 exists, the second transmission unit transmits an information
6 request signal to the server address extracted by the server
7 address extraction unit.

1 Claim 18 (original): The device according to claim 16,
2 further comprising:

3 a selection unit selecting at least an information item
4 from the information presented by the information presentation
5 unit; and

6 an ID information addition unit adding information ID
7 designating information corresponding to the information item
8 selected by the selection unit to the signal to be
9 transmitted, wherein

10 the first transmission unit or the second transmission
11 unit transmits the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 19 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising

3 a warning unit giving a warning when the information
4 acquired by the reception unit is incomplete or when it is
5 determined that information cannot be completely acquired.

1 Claim 20 (original): The device according to claim 16,
2 wherein

3 the first transmission unit or the second transmission
4 unit retransmits the signal to be transmitted when the
5 information acquired by the reception unit is incomplete or

6 when it is determined that information cannot be completely
7 acquired.

1 Claim 21 (original): The device according to claim 19,
2 wherein

3 the warning unit gives a warning when a size of the
4 information acquired by the reception unit exceeds a
5 predetermined size or a free storage capacity of the
6 information storage unit.

1 Claim 22 (original): The device according to claim 19,
2 wherein

3 the warning unit gives a warning when the information
4 received and acquired by the reception unit relates to a size
5 of continually transmitted information, and the size of the
6 information exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage
7 capacity of the information storage unit.

1 Claim 23 (original): The device according to claim 20,
2 wherein

3 when the size of the information acquired by the
4 reception unit exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage
5 capacity of the information storage unit, the information is
6 automatically changed to the information relating to a type of
7 information of a smaller size, the information addition unit
8 adds the information relating to the type of information to
9 the signal to be transmitted, and the first transmission unit
10 or the second transmission unit retransmits the added signal
11 to be transmitted.

1 Claim 24 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising

3 an information size setting unit setting a maximum value
4 of a size of information that can be received and acquired by
5 the reception unit, wherein

6 the information addition unit further adds information
7 relating to the maximum value of the size of the information
8 that can be acquired and is set by the information size
9 setting unit to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 25 (original): The device according to claim 24,
2 wherein

3 the information size setting unit automatically sets the
4 maximum value of the size of the information that can be
5 acquired based on the free storage capacity of the information
6 storage unit.

1 Claim 26 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising

3 a user information storage unit storing information
4 relating to a user of the information acquisition device,
5 wherein

6 the information addition unit further adds the
7 information relating to the user and stored in the user
8 information storage unit to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 27 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising

3 an equipment information storage unit storing equipment
4 information about the information acquisition device, wherein

5 the information addition unit further adds the equipment
6 information about the information acquisition device stored in
7 the equipment information storage unit to the signal to be
8 transmitted.

1 Claim 28 (original): The device according to claim 27,
2 wherein

3 the equipment information contains at least one or more
4 of a maker name of the information acquisition device, a model
5 number, a product serial number, and version information about
6 firmware.

1 Claim 29 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising:

3 an information acquisition history storage unit storing
4 information designation information designating the
5 information received by the reception unit; and

6 an acquired information determination unit determining
7 whether or not information newly received by the reception
8 unit is acquired according to the information designation
9 information about the newly received information, wherein
10 the information storage unit stores information
11 determined by the acquired information determination unit that
12 the information has not been acquired in the information
13 received by the reception unit.

1 Claim 30 (original): The device according to claim 29,
2 wherein

3 the information designation information stored in the
4 information acquisition history storage unit is information
5 containing at least one of an address of a device which
6 transmits the signal received by the reception unit and the
7 information ID assigned to the information received by the
8 reception unit.

1 Claim 31 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising

3 a detection unit detecting that there is an information
4 providing device capable of providing information for the
5 information acquisition device in the direction of the
6 directivity.

1 Claim 32 (original): The device according to claim 31,
2 wherein:

3 the detection unit further comprises:
4 an issued signal reception unit receiving an issued
5 signal from the information providing device; and
6 a notification unit notifying that there is the information
7 providing device detected when the issued signal is received
8 by the issued signal reception unit.

1 Claim 33 (original): The device according to claim 31,
2 wherein

3 when the detection unit does not detect presence of the
4 information providing device, an information acquiring
5 operation is not performed.

1 Claim 34 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising

3 a program update unit extracting a control program, and
4 updating all or a part of the control program stored in the
5 program memory to be updated based on the control program when
6 the control program of the information acquisition device is
7 contained in the signal received by the reception unit.

1 Claim 35 (original): The device according to claim 34,
2 further comprising:

3 an unreasonable program check unit detecting whether or
4 not an unreasonable program is contained in the information
5 acquired by the reception unit;

6 an unreasonable program warning unit giving a warning
7 when it is detected by the unreasonable program check unit
8 that an unreasonable program is contained in the information
9 acquired by the reception unit; and

10 an unreasonable program deletion unit deleting acquired
11 information when it is detected by the unreasonable program
12 check unit that an unreasonable program is contained in the
13 information acquired by the reception unit.

1 Claim 36 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising

3 an encryption unit encrypting all or a part of the
4 information added by the information addition unit to the
5 signal to be transmitted using an encryption key contained in
6 the information received and acquired by the reception unit.

1 Claim 37 (original): The device according to claim 36,
2 wherein

3 the information addition unit further adds the encryption
4 key request information to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 38 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising:

3 an encryption key generation unit generating an
4 encryption key and a decryption key; and

5 a decryption unit decrypting encrypted information
6 contained in the signal received by the reception unit using
7 the decryption key, wherein

8 the information addition unit adds an encryption key
9 generated by the encryption key information generation unit to
10 the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 39 (original): The device according to claim 5, wherein
2 the reception unit further comprises a communication unit
3 using a public network and receiving, regenerating, and
4 communicating common sound through the public network .

1 Claim 40 (original): The device according to claim 5, further
2 comprising

3 an image capturing unit obtaining image data by capturing
4 a subject image in a same direction as the directivity
5 direction of the signal transmitted by the first transmission
6 unit, wherein:

7 the information storage unit stores the image data
8 captured by the image capturing unit in addition to the
9 information acquired by the reception unit; and

10 the information presentation unit presents all or a part
11 of the information or image data stored in the information
12 storage unit, the information acquired by the reception unit,
13 or the image data captured by the image capturing unit.

1 Claim 41 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising:

3 a mode setting unit setting at least one of a mode of
4 acquiring only information, a mode of acquiring only an image,
5 and a mode of acquiring both information and an image; and

6 a mode switch unit switching a mode set by the mode
7 setting unit.

1 Claim 42 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising
3 an information transmission unit externally transmitting
4 the information or image data stored in the information
5 storage unit, the information acquired by the reception unit,
6 or the image data captured by the image capturing unit.

1 Claim 43 (original): The device according to claim 42,
2 further comprising
3 a selection unit selecting the information or the image
4 data stored in the information storage unit, wherein
5 the information transmission unit externally transmits
6 the information or the image data selected by the selection
7 unit.

1 Claim 44 (original): The device according to claim 43,
2 wherein
3 the information transmission unit transmits information
4 to an address indicating a predetermined destination.

1 Claim 45 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising
3 a setting unit setting information relating to a type of
4 information received and acquired by the reception unit,
5 wherein
6 the information addition unit further adds information
7 relating to a type of information set by the setting unit to
8 the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 46 (original): The device according to claim 45,
2 further comprising

3 an information screen unit screening the information
4 received by the reception unit, wherein:

5 information to be acquired is selected by the information
6 screen unit from the information received by the reception
7 unit, and the screened information is stored in the
8 information storage unit.

1 Claim 47 (original): The device according to claim 46,
2 wherein

3 screening standards of the information screened by the
4 information screen unit designate a type of information set by
5 the setting unit, and only the information of the type set by
6 the setting unit is stored in the information storage unit.

1 Claim 48 (original): The device according to claim 45,
2 wherein

3 the information relating to the type of identification
4 relates to at least one of a size of information, a type of
5 information, a style of information, a file format of
6 information, a content of information, and a field of
7 information.

1 Claim 49 (original): The device according to claim 45,
2 wherein

3 the information relating to a type of information refers
4 to information indicating a same target and a different type
5 of information size.

1 Claim 50 (original): The device according to claim 49,
2 wherein

3 the information relating to a type of information
4 includes information relating to at least one type of common

5 information, summary information obtained by summarizing the
6 common information, and address information in a network
7 containing information.

1 Claim 51 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising:

3 a server address extraction unit extracting a server
4 address designating an information providing source contained
5 in the information acquired by the reception unit; and
6 a second transmission unit transmitting a signal in a
7 style different from a style of the first transmission unit.

1 Claim 52 (original): The device according to claim 51,
2 wherein

3 the second transmission unit transmits by wireless a
4 signal using an electromagnetic wave including light and a
5 sound wave including ultrasonic, and the signal transmitted by
6 wireless from the second transmission unit has no directivity
7 or has broader directivity than the signal transmitted by the
8 first transmission unit.

1 Claim 53 (original): The device according to claim 52,
2 wherein

3 when the information received by the reception unit is
4 address information in a network in which the information
5 exists, the second transmission unit transmits an information
6 request signal to the server address extracted by the server
7 address extraction unit.

1 Claim 54 (original): The device according to claim 52,
2 further comprising:

3 a selection unit selecting at least an information item
4 from the information presented by the information presentation
5 unit; and

6 an ID information addition unit adding information ID
7 designating information corresponding to the information item
8 selected by the selection unit to the signal to be
9 transmitted, wherein

10 the first transmission unit or the second transmission
11 unit transmits the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 55 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising

3 a warning unit giving a warning when the information
4 acquired by the reception unit is incomplete or when it is
5 determined that information cannot be completely acquired.

1 Claim 56 (original): The device according to claim 52,
2 wherein

3 the first transmission unit or the second transmission
4 unit retransmits the signal to be transmitted when the
5 information acquired by the reception unit is incomplete or
6 when it is determined that information cannot be completely
7 acquired.

1 Claim 57 (original): The device according to claim 55,
2 wherein

3 the warning unit gives a warning when a size of the
4 information acquired by the reception unit exceeds a
5 predetermined size or a free storage capacity of the
6 information storage unit.

1 Claim 58 (original): The device according to claim 55,
2 wherein

3 the warning unit gives a warning when the information
4 received and acquired by the reception unit relates to a size
5 of continually transmitted information, and the size of the
6 information exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage
7 capacity of the information storage unit.

1 Claim 59 (original): The device according to claim 58,
2 wherein

3 when the size of the information acquired by the
4 reception unit exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage
5 capacity of the information storage unit, the information is
6 automatically changed to the information relating to a type of
7 information of a smaller size, the information addition unit
8 adds the information relating to the type of information to
9 the signal to be transmitted, and the first transmission unit
10 or the second transmission unit retransmits the added signal
11 to be transmitted.

1 Claim 60 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising

3 an information size setting unit setting a maximum value
4 of a size of information that can be received and acquired by
5 the reception unit, wherein

6 the information addition unit further adds information
7 relating to the maximum value of the size of the information
8 that can be acquired and is set by the information size
9 setting unit to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 61 (original): The device according to claim 60,
2 wherein

3 the information size setting unit automatically sets the
4 maximum value of the size of the information that can be
5 acquired into the free storage capacity of the information
6 storage unit.

1 Claim 62 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising

3 a user information storage unit storing information
4 relating to a user of the information acquisition device,
5 wherein

6 the information addition unit further adds the
7 information relating to the user and stored in the user
8 information storage unit to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 63 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising

3 an equipment information storage unit storing equipment
4 information about the information acquisition device, wherein
5 the information addition unit further adds the equipment
6 information stored in the equipment information storage unit
7 to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 64 (original): The device according to claim 63,
2 wherein

3 the equipment information contains at least one or more
4 of a maker name of the information acquisition device, a model
5 number, a product serial number, and version information about
6 firmware.

1 Claim 65 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising:

3 an information acquisition history storage unit storing
4 information designation information designating the
5 information received by the reception unit; and

6 an acquired information determination unit determining
7 whether or not information newly received by the reception
8 unit has been acquired before according to the information
9 designation information about the newly received information,
10 wherein

11 the information storage unit stores information
12 determined by the acquired information determination unit that
13 the information has not been acquired in the information
14 received by the reception unit.

1 Claim 66 (original): The device according to claim 30,
2 wherein

3 the information designation information stored in the
4 information acquisition history storage unit is information
5 containing either one of an address of a device which
6 transmits the signal received by the reception unit or the
7 information ID assigned to the information received by the
8 reception unit.

1 Claim 67 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising

3 a detection unit detecting that there is an information
4 providing device capable of providing information for the
5 information acquisition device in the direction of the
6 directivity.

1 Claim 68 (original): The information acquisition device
2 according to claim 67, wherein

3 the detection unit further comprises:

4 an issued signal reception unit receiving an issued
5 signal from the information providing device; and
6 a notification unit notifying that there is the information
7 providing device detected when the issued signal is received
8 by the issued signal reception unit.

1 Claim 69 (original): The information acquisition device
2 according to claim 67, wherein

3 when the detection unit does not detect presence of the
4 information providing device, an information acquiring
5 operation is not performed.

1 Claim 70 (original): The device according to claim 67,
2 wherein

3 when the detection unit does not detect existence of the
4 information providing device, and when the mode setting unit
5 sets a mode of acquiring both information and an image, an
6 image is captured only as in the mode of acquiring only an
7 image.

1 Claim 71 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising

3 a program update unit extracting a control program, and
4 updating all or a part of the control program stored in the
5 program memory to be updated based on the control program when
6 the control program of the information acquisition device is
7 contained in the signal received by the reception unit.

1 Claim 72 (original): The device according to claim 71,
2 further comprising:

3 an unreasonable program check unit detecting whether or
4 not an unreasonable program is contained in the information
5 acquired by the reception unit;

6 an unreasonable program warning unit giving a warning
7 when it is detected by the unreasonable program check unit
8 that an unreasonable program is contained in the information
9 acquired by the reception unit; and

10 an unreasonable program deletion unit deleting acquired
11 information when it is detected by the unreasonable program
12 check unit that an unreasonable program is contained in the
13 information acquired by the reception unit.

1 Claim 73 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising

3 an encryption unit encrypting all or a part of the
4 information added by the information addition unit to the
5 signal to be transmitted using an encryption key contained in
6 the information received and acquired by the reception unit.

1 Claim 74 (original): The device according to claim 73,
2 wherein

3 the information addition unit further adds the encryption
4 key request information to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 75 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 further comprising:

3 an encryption key generation unit generating an
4 encryption key and a decryption key; and

5 a decryption unit decrypting encrypted information
6 contained in the signal received by the reception unit using
7 the decryption key, wherein

8 the information addition unit adds an encryption key
9 generated by the encryption key information generation unit to
10 the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 76 (original): The device according to claim 40,
2 wherein
3 the reception unit further comprises a communication unit
4 using a public network and receiving, regenerating, and
5 communicating common voice through the public network.

1 Claim 77 (currently amended): An information providing device
2 capable of providing information at an information request
3 from the information acquisition device according to ~~at least~~
4 ~~one of claims 1 through 76~~ claim 1, comprising:

5 an information database storing information to be
6 provided;

7 a first information reception unit receiving a request
8 signal transmitted by wireless from the first transmission
9 unit having the directivity of the information acquisition
10 device;

11 a request extraction unit extracting a destination
12 address for designation of a destination of information from
13 the request signal received by the first information reception
14 unit; and

15 a first information transmission unit transmitting by
16 wireless the information to be provided read at the request
17 signal from the information database to a destination address
18 according to the address information extracted by the request
19 extraction unit.

1 Claim 78 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 wherein

3 the destination address extracted by the request
4 extraction unit is an own address as an address of a reception
5 unit of the information acquisition device receiving the
6 provided information , and the first information transmission
7 unit transmits by wireless the information to be provided read
8 from the information database at the request signal to the own
9 address.

1 Claim 79 (original): The device according to claim 78,
2 further comprising
3 a second information reception unit receiving the signal
4 transmitted by wireless from the second transmission unit of
5 the information acquisition device in addition to the first
6 information reception unit, wherein
7 the first information transmission unit transmits the
8 address of second information reception unit to the
9 destination address extracted by the request extraction unit.

1 Claim 80 (original): The device according to claim 78,
2 further comprising
3 an ID information extraction unit extracting an
4 information ID designating information from the request signal
5 received by the first information reception unit or the second
6 information reception unit, wherein
7 when the ID information extraction unit extracts the
8 information ID from the request signal, the first information
9 transmission unit transmits by wireless the information
10 corresponding to the information ID stored in the information
11 database, and when the ID information extraction unit does not
12 extract the information ID from the request signal received
13 by the first information reception unit, the first information

14 transmission unit transmits by wireless predetermined
15 information stored in the information database.

1 Claim 81 (original): The device according to claim 80,
2 wherein

3 when the information ID is not extracted from the request
4 signal received by the first information reception unit, the
5 first information transmission unit transmits by wireless
6 index information about information which can be provided and
7 stored in the information database.

1 Claim 82 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 further comprising

3 an information type extraction unit extracting the
4 information relating to the type of the requested information
5 from the request signal received by the first information
6 reception unit, wherein

7 the first information transmission unit transmits by
8 wireless the information read from the information database
9 according to the information relating to the type of
10 information extracted by the information type extraction unit.

1 Claim 83 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 further comprising

3 an encryption unit encrypting the information to be
4 transmitted by the first information transmission unit.

1 Claim 84 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 further comprising

3 a signal transmission unit transmitting by wireless a
4 signal for notification that information can be provided.

1 Claim 85 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 wherein:

3 the first information reception unit comprises a
4 plurality of reception units and an information selection unit
5 selecting provided information corresponding to each reception
6 unit; and

7 the first information transmission unit transmits the
8 information stored in the information database selected by the
9 information selection unit.

1 Claim 86 (original): The device according to claim 78,
2 further comprising:

3 an equipment information extraction unit extracting
4 equipment information about the information acquisition device
5 from the request signal received by the first information
6 reception unit; and

7 a program information database storing a control program
8 controlling and operating a device, wherein

9 the first information transmission unit transmits a
10 control program corresponding to the equipment information
11 stored in the program information database according to the
12 equipment information extracted from the request signal.

1 Claim 87 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 wherein

3 the request extraction unit further extracts user
4 information from a signal received by the first information
5 reception unit, and the first information transmission unit
6 transmits the information to be provided read corresponding to
7 the user information from the information database to the
8 address extracted by the request extraction unit.

1 Claim 88 (original): The device according to claim 87,
2 further comprising:

3 a user information determination unit determining a level
4 of the user information from the user information extracted by
5 the request extraction unit; and

6 a user information database storing the user information
7 extracted by the request extraction unit, wherein

8 the information being transmitted by the first
9 information transmission unit to the destination address
10 extracted by the request extraction unit is read from the
11 information database corresponding to the level of the user
12 information determined by the user information determination
13 unit.

1 Claim 89 (original): The device according to claim 78,
2 further comprising:

3 an encryption key information generation unit generating
4 an encryption key and a decryption key; and

5 a decryption unit decrypting encrypted information
6 contained in the signal received by the first information
7 reception unit or the second information reception unit by the
8 decryption key, wherein

9 the first information transmission unit transmits an
10 encryption key generated by the encryption key information
11 generation unit to the destination address according to an
12 address information extracted by the request extraction unit.

1 Claim 90 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 further comprising:

3 an information providing history database storing a
4 destination address when the first information transmission

5 unit transmits information to be provided to the destination
6 address; and

7 a determination unit determining whether or not a
8 destination address extracted by the request extraction unit
9 has been stored in the information providing history database
10 before, wherein

11 the first information transmission unit transmits or does
12 not transmit predetermined information read from the
13 information database to a destination address extracted from
14 the request extraction unit depending on a determination
15 result by the determination unit.

1 Claim 91 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 wherein:

3 the destination address to which the first information
4 transmission unit transmits information to be provided and ID
5 information about the information to be provided for
6 designation of the information to be provided are associated
7 and stored in the information providing history database;

8 the determination unit determines whether or not the
9 destination address extracted by the request extraction unit
10 and the ID information about the information to be provided
11 read from the information database are associated with and
12 stored in the information providing history database, and

13 the first information transmission unit transmits or does
14 not transmit request information read from the information
15 database to a destination address extracted from the request
16 extraction unit depending on a determination result by the
17 determination unit.

1 Claim 92 (original): The device according to 77, further
2 comprising

3 a second information transmission unit different from the
4 first information transmission unit, wherein:

5 the request extraction unit extracts an own address from
6 the signal received by the first information reception unit
7 and a second address different from the own address;

8 the second information transmission unit transmits the
9 information to be provided read from the information database
10 and the information extracted from the request extraction unit
11 using the second address as a destination address; and

12 the first information transmission unit transmits, to the
13 own address, transmission result information notifying that
14 the information to be provided has been transmitted to the
15 destination address of the information extracted by the
16 request extraction unit.

1 Claim 93 (original): The device according to 92, wherein
2 when a destination address designating a destination of
3 information different from the own address is not contained in
4 the signal received by the first information reception unit,
5 the first information transmission unit transmits the
6 information to be provided to the own address extracted by the
7 request extraction unit.

1 Claim 94 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 further comprising:

3 a third information transmission unit different from the
4 first information transmission unit; and

5 a third information reception unit receiving a returned
6 signal in response to a signal transmitted by the third
7 information transmission unit, wherein

8 the request extraction unit extracts request information
9 contained in the signal received by the first information
10 reception unit;

11 the third information transmission unit transmits a
12 second request signal containing the information request to a
13 predetermined address;

14 the third information reception unit receives a returned
15 signal in response to the second request signal; and

16 the first information transmission unit transmits the
17 information contained in the returned signal received by the
18 third information reception unit to the destination address.

1 Claim 95 (original): The device according to claim 94,
2 wherein

3 the request extraction unit further extracts information
4 relating to a type of information from the signal received by
5 the first information reception unit;

6 the third information transmission unit transmits a
7 information request signal containing the information relating
8 to the type of information to a second information providing
9 device capable of providing information corresponding to the
10 information relating to the type of information when the
11 information corresponding to the information relating to the
12 type of information extracted by the request extraction unit
13 is not stored in the information database; and

14 when the information corresponding to the information
15 relating to the type of information transmitted by the second
16 information providing device is received by the third
17 information reception unit, the first information transmission
18 unit transmits the information corresponding to the
19 information relating to the type of information to the
20 destination address extracted by the request extraction unit.

1 Claim 96 (original): The device according to claim 94,
2 wherein:

3 the request extraction unit further extracts the
4 equipment information about a source of the signal received by
5 the first information reception unit;

6 when the information corresponding to the equipment
7 information extracted by the request extraction unit is stored
8 in the information database, the third information
9 transmission unit transmits the information read from the
10 information database corresponding to the equipment
11 information and predetermined information read from the
12 information database to the destination address extracted by
13 the request extraction unit; or

14 when the information corresponding to the equipment
15 information extracted by the request extraction unit is not
16 stored in the information database, the third information
17 transmission unit transmits the information request signal
18 containing the equipment information to the second information
19 providing device capable of providing the information
20 corresponding to the equipment information; and

21 when the information corresponding to the equipment
22 information transmitted by the second information providing
23 device is received by the third information reception unit,
24 the first information transmission unit transmits the
25 information corresponding to the equipment information and the
26 predetermined information read from the information database
27 to the destination address extracted by the request extraction
28 unit.

1 Claim 97 (original): The device according to claim 95,
2 further comprising

3 a device designation unit designating a second
4 information providing device capable of providing information
5 corresponding to the information relating to the type of
6 information, wherein

7 the third information transmission unit transmits the
8 information relating to the type of information to the second
9 information providing device designated by the device
10 designation unit.

1 Claim 98 (original): The device according to claim 96,
2 further comprising

3 a device designation unit designating a second
4 information providing device capable of providing information
5 corresponding to the equipment information, wherein
6 the third information transmission unit transmits the
7 equipment information to the second information providing
8 device designated by the device designation unit.

1 Claim 99 (original): The device according to claim 98,
2 wherein

3 the distribution contains at least one or more of a maker
4 name of the information acquisition device, a model number, a
5 product serial number, and version information about firmware.

1 Claim 100 (original): The device according to claim 77,
2 further comprising
3 an information processing unit modifying the information
4 transmitted by the first information transmission unit.

1 Claim 101 (original): The device according to claim 100,
2 wherein

3 the information modifying unit compresses or encrypts
4 information.

1 Claim 102 (original): An information providing system having
2 an information acquisition device which acquires digital
3 information functioning by executing a control program stored
4 in program memory, and an information providing device capable
5 of providing information according to an information request
6 from the information acquisition device, wherein:

7 the information acquisition device comprises:
8 a first transmission unit having directivity and
9 transmitting by wireless a n information request signal to be
10 transmitted in a direction of the directivity;

11 an information addition unit adding at least one piece
12 of address information to the information request signal to be
13 transmitted;

14 a reception unit having no directivity or having
15 directivity broader than the first transmission unit,
16 receiving a radio signal transmitted by wireless in response
17 to the information request signal transmitted by the first
18 transmission unit, and acquiring information contained in the
19 signal;

20 an information storage unit which is built in the
21 information acquisition device or attached to the device as
22 removable from the device, and can store all or a part of
23 information acquired by the reception unit; and

24 an operation unit issuing an instruction to start an
25 information requesting operation;

26 the information providing device comprises:

27 an information database storing information to be
28 provided;

29 a first information reception unit receiving a request
30 signal transmitted by wireless from the first transmission
31 unit having the directivity of the information acquisition
32 device;

33 a request extraction unit extracting at least a
34 destination address for designation of a destination of
35 information from the request signal received by the first
36 information reception unit; and

37 a first information transmission unit transmitting by
38 wireless the information to be provided read at the request
39 signal from the information database to a destination address
40 according to the address information extracted by the request
41 extraction unit; and

42 the reception unit and the first information transmission unit
43 have no directivity or have broader directivity than the first
44 transmission unit.

1 Claim 103 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 wherein

3 an address added by an information storage unit of the
4 information acquisition device to an information request
5 signal comprises at least own address as an address of the
6 reception unit of the information providing device.

1 Claim 104 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 a user information storage unit storing information
5 relating to a user of the information acquisition device;
6 in the information acquisition device,

7 the information addition unit further adds the
8 information relating to the user stored in the user

9 information storage unit to the information request signal to
10 be transmitted; and

11 in the information providing device,
12 the request extraction unit extracts the information relating
13 to the user from the request signal received by the first
14 information reception unit, and the first information
15 transmission unit transmits information to be provided read
16 according to the information relating to the user extracted by
17 the request extraction unit from the information database to a
18 destination address according to address information extracted
19 by the request extraction unit.

1 Claim 105 (original): The system according to claim 103,
2 wherein

3 in the information acquisition device,
4 when information acquired by the reception unit is incomplete
5 or it is determined that information cannot be completely
6 acquired, the first transmission unit retransmits the
7 information request signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 106 (original): The system according to claim 103,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 a warning unit giving a warning when information acquired by
5 the reception unit is incomplete or it is determined that
6 information cannot be completely acquired.

1 Claim 107 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises:
4 an equipment information storage unit storing equipment
5 information about the information acquisition device; and

6 a program update unit extracting a control program, and
7 updating all or a part of the control program stored in the
8 program memory to be updated based on the control program when
9 the control program of the information acquisition device is
10 contained in the signal received by the reception unit;

11 the information providing device further comprises:

12 an equipment information extraction unit extracting the
13 equipment information from the request signal received by the
14 first information reception unit; and

15 a program information database storing a control program
16 for controlling and operating a device;

17 in the information acquisition device,

18 the information addition unit further adds the equipment
19 information stored in the equipment information storage unit
20 to the information request signal to be transmitted; and

21 in the information providing device,

22 the first information transmission unit further transmits by
23 wireless the control program corresponding to the equipment
24 information stored in the program information database
25 according to the equipment information extracted from the
26 equipment information extraction unit to a destination address
27 according to address information extracted by the request
28 extraction unit.

1 Claim 108 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 a detection unit detecting that there is an information
5 providing device capable of providing information for the
6 information acquisition device in the direction of
7 directivity; and

8 the information providing device further comprises a signal
9 transmission unit transmitting by wireless a signal notifying
10 that information can be provided.

1 Claim 109 (original): The system according to claim 108,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device does not perform an
4 information acquiring operation when existence of the
5 information providing device is not detected by the detection
6 unit.

1 Claim 110 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 an image capturing unit obtaining image data by
5 capturing a subject image in a direction same as the direction
6 of directivity of the signal transmitted by the first
7 transmission unit; and

8 in the information acquisition device,
9 the information storage unit stores image data captured by the
10 image capturing unit in addition to the information acquired
11 by the reception unit.

1 Claim 111 (original): The system according to claim 110,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device further comprises:
4 a mode setting unit setting at least one of a mode of
5 acquiring only information, a mode of acquiring only an image,
6 and a mode of acquiring both information and an image; and
7 a mode switch unit switching a mode set by the mode
8 setting unit.

1 Claim 112 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 a setting unit setting the information relating to the
5 type of information received and acquired by the reception
6 unit;

7 the information providing device further comprises
8 an information type extraction unit extracting the
9 information relating to the type of requested information from
10 the request signal received by the first information reception
11 unit;

12 in the information acquisition device,

13 the information addition unit further adds the
14 information relating to the type of information set by the
15 setting unit to the signal to be transmitted; and

16 in the information providing device,

17 the first information transmission unit further transmits by
18 wireless the information read from the information database
19 according to the information relating to the type of
20 information extracted by the information type extraction unit.

1 Claim 113 (original): The system according to claim 112,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises:
4 a setting unit setting the information relating to the
5 type of information received and acquired by the reception
6 unit; and

7 a warning unit giving a warning when a size of the
8 information acquired by the reception unit exceeds a
9 predetermined size or a free storage capacity of the
10 information storage unit;

11 the information providing device further comprises

12 an information type extraction unit extracting the
13 information relating to the type of requested information from
14 the request signal received by the first information reception
15 unit;

16 in the information acquisition device,

17 the information addition unit further adds the
18 information relating to the type of information set by the
19 setting unit to the signal to be transmitted; and

20 in the information providing device,

21 the first information transmission unit further transmits by
22 wireless the information read from the information database
23 according to the information relating to the type of
24 information extracted by the information type extraction unit.

1 Claim 114 (original): The system according to claim 113,
2 wherein

3 in the information acquisition device,
4 when a size of the information acquired by the reception unit
5 exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage capacity of the
6 information storage unit, the information is automatically
7 changed to information relating to the type of information
8 having a smaller size, the information addition unit adds the
9 information relating to the type of information and at least
10 one piece of address information to the information request
11 signal to be transmitted, and the first transmission unit re-
12 transmits the added information request signal to be
13 transmitted.

1 Claim 115 (original): The system according to claim 103,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises:

4 an information presentation unit presenting all or a
5 part of information stored in the information storage unit or
6 information acquired by the reception unit;

7 a selection unit selecting at least one information item
8 from the information presented by the information presentation
9 unit; and

10 an ID information addition unit adding the information
11 ID designating the information corresponding to the
12 information item selected by the selection unit to the
13 information request signal to be transmitted;

14 the information providing device further comprising
15 an ID information extraction unit extracting an
16 information ID designating information from the request signal
17 received by the first information reception unit;

18 in the information acquisition device,

19 the first transmission unit further transmits by
20 wireless an information request signal to which the
21 information ID and at least one piece of address information
22 are added which is to be transmitted;

23 in the information providing device,

24 when the ID information extraction unit extracts the
25 information ID from the request signal, the first information
26 transmission unit transmits by wireless the information
27 corresponding to the information ID stored in the information
28 database, and

29 when the ID information extraction unit does not extract the
30 information ID from the request signal received by the first
31 information reception unit, the first information transmission
32 unit transmits by wireless predetermined information stored in
33 the information database.

1 Claim 116 (original): The system according to claim 103,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 an information transmission unit externally transmitting the
5 information stored in the information storage unit or the
6 information acquired by the reception unit.

1 Claim 117 (original): The system according to claim 110,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 an information transmission unit transmitting the information
5 or image data stored in the information storage unit, or the
6 information acquired by the reception unit to an address
7 indicating a predetermined destination.

1 Claim 118 (original): The system according to claim 103,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises:
4 an encryption key information generation unit generating
5 an encryption key and a decryption key; and
6 decryption unit decrypting, using the decryption key,
7 information encrypted and contained in the signal received by
8 the reception unit;

9 the information providing device further comprises
10 an encryption unit encrypting information transmitted by
11 the first information transmission unit;

12 in the information acquisition device,

13 the information addition unit adds the encryption key
14 generated by the encryption key information generation unit to
15 the signal to be transmitted; and

16 in the information providing device,

17 the request extraction unit further extracts the
18 encryption key from the request signal received by the first
19 information reception unit; and
20 the first information transmission unit transmits by wireless
21 the information to be provided read according to the request
22 signal from the information database and encrypted by the
23 encryption unit to the destination address based on the
24 address information extracted by the request extraction unit.

1 Claim 119 (original): The system according to claim 103,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises:
4 an information acquisition history storage unit storing
5 the information designation information for designating the
6 information received by the reception unit; and
7 an acquired information determination unit determining
8 according to the information designation information for the
9 information newly received by the reception unit whether or
10 not the newly received identification has been acquired;
11 in the information acquisition device,
12 the information storage unit stores the information
13 determined by the acquired information determination unit as
14 not acquired yet in the information received by the reception
15 unit;
16 in the information providing device,
17 the information database further stores the information
18 designation information designating the information to be
19 provided; and
20 the first information transmission unit transmits by wireless
21 the information to be provided read from the information
22 database according to the request signal and the information
23 designation information designating the information to be

24 provided to the destination address according to the address
25 information extracted by the request extraction unit.

1 Claim 120 (original): The system according to claim 103,
2 wherein:
3 the information acquisition device further comprises:
4 a user information storage unit storing information
5 relating to a user of the information acquisition device; and
6 an encryption unit encrypting information;
7 the information providing device further comprises:
8 an encryption key information generation unit generating
9 an encryption key and a decryption key; and
10 a decryption unit decrypting using the decryption key
11 the encrypted information contained in the signal received by
12 the first information reception unit; and
13 in the information acquisition device,
14 the encryption unit encrypts information relating to the
15 user stored in the user information storage unit using the
16 encryption key extracted from the information acquired by the
17 reception unit; and
18 the information addition unit further adds the encrypted
19 information relating to the user to the information request
20 signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 121 (original): The system according to claim 103,
2 wherein:
3 the information acquisition device further comprises:
4 a second transmission unit transmitting a signal having
5 no directivity or having broader directivity than the first
6 transmission unit;

7 an information presentation unit presenting all or a
8 part of information stored in the information storage unit or
9 information acquired by the reception unit;

10 a selection unit selecting at least one information item
11 from the information presented by the information presentation
12 unit;

13 an ID information addition unit adding an information ID
14 designating information corresponding to the information item
15 selected by the selection unit to the signal transmitted by
16 the second transmission unit; and

17 a server address extraction unit extracting a server
18 address designating an information source contained in the
19 information acquired by the reception unit;

20 the information providing device further comprises:

21 a second information reception unit receiving the signal
22 transmitted by wireless by the second transmission unit of the
23 information acquisition device; and

24 an ID information extraction unit extracting an
25 information ID designating information from the signal
26 received by the second information reception unit;

27 in the information acquisition device,

28 the information addition unit further adds at least one
29 piece of address information to the signal transmitted by the
30 second information transmission unit; and

31 the second transmission unit transmits by wireless the
32 signal to which the information ID and at least one piece of
33 address information are added to the server address extracted
34 by the server address extraction unit; and

35 in the information providing device,

36 when the information ID is not extracted by the ID
37 information extraction unit from a request signal received by
38 the first information reception unit, the first information

39 transmission unit transmits by wireless predetermined
40 information stored in the information database and an address
41 of the second information reception unit; and
42 when the information ID is extracted by the ID information
43 extraction unit from the signal received by the second
44 information reception unit, the first information transmission
45 unit transmits by wireless the information corresponding to
46 the information ID stored in the information database.

1 Claim 122 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 wherein

3 in the information acquisition device,
4 the reception unit uses a public network, and comprises a
5 communication unit capable of receiving and regenerating
6 common voice and performing communications.

1 Claim 123 (original): The information providing device
2 according to claim 122, wherein

3 in the information acquisition device,
4 when the signal received by the reception unit is a
5 communication signal, the communication unit can receive,
6 regenerate, and communicate common voice.

1 Claim 124 (original): The system according to 102, wherein
2 a first reception unit of the information providing
3 device comprises a plurality of reception units, each
4 reception unit is associated with information to be presented,
5 the information associated with the reception unit receiving a
6 request signal is read from the information database, and the
7 first information transmission unit transmits the information.

1 Claim 125 (original): The system according to claim 111,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 a detection unit detecting existence of an information
5 providing device capable of providing information for the
6 information acquisition device in the direction of the
7 directivity;
8 the information providing device further comprises
9 a signal transmission unit transmitting by wireless a
10 signal notifying that information can be provided; and
11 the information acquisition device does not perform an
12 information acquiring operation when the existence of the
13 information providing device is not detected.

1 Claim 126 (original): The system according to claim 103,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 a transmission/reception unit transmitting an information
5 request signal to a server address presented by the address
6 information through the Internet when the information received
7 by the reception unit is the address information on the
8 network in which the information exists, and receiving
9 information corresponding to the information request signal
10 through the Internet.

1 Claim 127 (original): The system according to claim 112,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises
4 an analysis unit analyzing whether or not the
5 information received by the reception unit is information
6 relating to the information type set by the setting unit; and

7 when, as a result of the analysis of the analysis unit,
8 the information received by the reception unit is the
9 information relating to the set information type, the received
10 information is stored, and otherwise a warning is given.

1 Claim 128 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 wherein:

3 the information providing device further comprises a
4 second information transmission unit different from the first
5 information transmission unit;

6 the request extraction unit extracts an own address from
7 the signal received by the first information reception unit
8 and a second address different from the own address;

9 the second information transmission unit transmits
10 information to be provided read from the information database
11 and the information extracted by the request extraction unit
12 to the second address as a destination address; and

13 the first information transmission unit transmits, to the
14 own address, transmission result information notifying that
15 the information to be provided has been transmitted to the
16 destination address of the information extracted by the
17 request extraction unit.

1 Claim 129 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 wherein:

3 the information providing device further comprises:

4 an information providing history database storing a
5 destination address used when the transmission unit transmits
6 predetermined information to the destination address; and

7 a determination unit determining whether or not the
8 destination address extracted by the request extraction unit

9 has been stored in the information providing history database;
10 and

11 in the information providing device,
12 the first transmission unit transmits or does not transmit
13 predetermined information read from the information database
14 to a destination address extracted by the request extraction
15 unit based on a determination result by the determination
16 unit.

1 Claim 130 (original): The system according to claim 104,
2 wherein:

3 the information providing device further comprises:
4 a user information level determination unit determining
5 a level of user information from the user information
6 extracted by the request extraction unit; and
7 a user information database storing the user information
8 extracted by the extraction unit; and
9 in the information providing device,
10 the first transmission unit transmits information read from
11 the information database depending on the level of the user
12 information determined by the user information level
13 determination unit to the destination address extracted by the
14 extraction unit.

1 Claim 131 (original): The system according to claim 102,
2 further comprising:

3 a third information transmission unit different from the
4 first information transmission unit; and
5 a third information reception unit receiving a returned
6 signal responding to a signal transmitted by the third
7 information transmission unit, wherein

8 the request extraction unit extracts request information
9 contained in a signal received by the first information
10 reception unit;

11 the third information transmission unit transmits a
12 second request signal containing the information request to a
13 predetermined address;

14 the third information reception unit receives a returned
15 signal responding to the second request signal; and

16 the first information transmission unit transmits
17 information contained in the returned signal received by the
18 third information reception unit to the destination address.

1 Claim 132 (original): The system according to claim 128,
2 wherein

3 the information providing device further comprises:

4 an information providing history database storing a
5 destination address used when predetermined information is
6 transmitted to the destination address by the transmission
7 unit; and

8 a determination unit determining whether or not the
9 destination address extracted by the extraction unit has been
10 stored in the information providing history database; and

11 in the information providing device,
12 the second information transmission unit transmits or does not
13 transmit predetermined information read from the information
14 database to a destination address extracted by the request
15 extraction unit based on a determination result by the
16 determination unit.

1 Claim 133 (original): The system according to claim 128,
2 wherein:

3 the information providing device further comprises:

4 a user information level determination unit
5 determining a level of user information by the user
6 information extracted by the request extraction unit; and
7 a user information database storing the user information
8 extracted by the extraction unit;
9 in the information acquisition device,
10 the information addition unit further adds the user
11 information of the information acquisition device to the
12 information request signal; and
13 in the information providing device,
14 the request extraction unit further extracts user
15 information from the request signal received by the first
16 information reception unit; and
17 the second information transmission unit transmits to the
18 destination address extracted by the extraction unit the
19 information read from the information database depending on a
20 determination level of the user information determined by the
21 user information level determination unit.

1 Claim 134 (original): The system according to claim 128,
2 further comprising:
3 a third information transmission unit different from the
4 first information transmission unit; and
5 a third information reception unit receiving a returned
6 signal responding to the signal transmitted by the third
7 information transmission unit; wherein
8 the request extraction unit extracts request information
9 contained in the signal received by the first information
10 reception unit;
11 the third information transmission unit transmits a
12 second request signal containing the information request to a
13 predetermined address;

14 the third information reception unit receives a returned
15 signal responding to the second request signal; and
16 the second information transmission unit transmits the
17 information contained in the returned signal received by the
18 third information reception unit to the destination address.

1 Claim 135 (original): An information providing method in an
2 information providing system having an information acquisition
3 device which acquires digital information and an information
4 providing device capable of providing information at an
5 information request from the information acquisition device,
6 wherein:

7 the information acquisition device performs:
8 adding to an information request signal at least an
9 address specifying a destination of information;
10 transmitting by wireless the added information request
11 signal as a signal having directivity in a directivity
12 direction;

13 the information providing device performs:
14 receiving an information request signal transmitted by
15 wireless in the directivity direction;
16 extracting the address from the received information
17 request signal; and
18 transmitting by wireless information read at the information
19 request signal from an information database storing
20 information to be provided to the extracted address.

1 Claim 136 (original): The method according to claim 135,
2 wherein:
3 the destination address is an address of the information
4 acquisition device; and

5 a signal including the information transmitted by
6 wireless from the information providing device has no
7 directivity, or is transmitted as a signal having broader
8 directivity than the information request signal.

1 Claim 137 (original): The method according to claim 135,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device performs;
4 adding user information about the information
5 acquisition device to the information request signal; and
6 the information providing device performs:
7 further extracting the user information from the
8 received information request signal; and
9 transmitting by wireless the information read according to the
10 user information extracted from the information database to
11 the extracted address.

1 Claim 138 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device performs
4 retransmitting by wireless the added information request
5 signal in the directivity direction when the received
6 information is incomplete, or when it is determined that
7 information cannot be completely acquired.

1 Claim 139 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device performs
4 giving a warning when the received information is
5 incomplete, or when it is determined that information cannot
6 be completely acquired.

1 Claim 140 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device performs
4 further adding equipment information about the
5 information acquisition device to the information request
6 signal;

7 The information providing device performs:
8 further extracting the equipment information from the
9 received information request signal; and
10 further transmitting by wireless a control program
11 corresponding to the equipment information stored in a program
12 information database to the extracted address of the
13 information acquisition device according to the extracted
14 equipment information; and
15 the information acquisition device performs:
16 further receiving the control program transmitted by
17 wireless; and
18 updating all or a part of the control program for control of
19 an operation of the information acquisition device stored in
20 program memory based on the received control program.

1 Claim 141 (original): The method according to claim 135,
2 wherein

3 the information providing device performs
4 transmitting by wireless a signal notifying that
5 information can be provided when the information can be
6 provided; and

7 the information acquisition device performs
8 acquiring information when a signal notifying that the
9 information can be provided can be detected in the directivity
10 direction.

1 Claim 142 (original): The method according to claim 141,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device performs
4 acquiring no information when a signal notifying that the
5 information can be provided cannot be detected in the
6 directivity direction.

1 Claim 143 (original): The method according to claim 135,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device performs
4 capturing a subject image in a same direction as the
5 directivity direction and acquiring image data in addition to
6 an information acquiring operation after an instruction to
7 acquire information is issued, and storing the acquired image
8 data in addition to the received information.

1 Claim 144 (original): The method according to claim 143,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device performs
4 setting at least one of or switching settings of: a
5 mode of acquiring only information; a mode of acquiring only
6 an image; and a mode of acquiring both information and an
7 image, and performing an operation depending on the set or
8 switched mode.

1 Claim 145 (original): The method according to claim 135,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device performs
4 setting information relating to a type of received
5 information;
6 further adding information relating to a type of the set
7 information to the information request signal; and

8 the information providing device performs:
9 further extracting the information relating to the type
10 of information from the received information request signal;
11 and
12 transmitting by wireless the information read according to the
13 information relating to the type of information extracted from
14 the information database to the extracted address.

1 Claim 146 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device performs:
4 setting information relating to a type of received
5 information; and
6 further adding information relating to the type of the
7 received information; and
8 the information providing device performs:
9 further extracting the information relating to the type
10 of information from the received information request signal;
11 and
12 transmitting by wireless the information read according
13 to the information relating to the type of information
14 extracted from information database to the address of the
15 information terminal device; and
16 the information acquisition device performs
17 giving a warning when a size of the received information
18 exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage capacity of the
19 information storage unit.

1 Claim 147 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device performs:

4 setting information relating to a type of received
5 information; and
6 further adding information relating to the type of the
7 received information; and
8 the information providing device performs:
9 further extracting the information relating to the type
10 of information from the received information request signal;
11 and
12 transmitting by wireless the information read according
13 to the information relating to the type of information
14 extracted from information database to the address of the
15 information terminal device; and
16 the information acquisition device performs
17 automatically changing information relating to a type of
18 information having small information size, and transmitting by
19 wireless an information request signal to which the
20 information relating to the type of the changed information
21 and an address of the information acquisition device is added
22 in the directivity direction when a size of the received
23 information exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage
24 capacity of the information storage unit.

1 Claim 148 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2
3 the information acquisition device performs:
4 presenting all or a part of stored information or the
5 received information;
6 selecting at least one information item from the
7 presented information;
8 further adding information ID designating information
9 corresponding to the selected information item to the
10 information request signal; and

11 the information providing device performs:
12 transmitting by wireless the information read according
13 to the information ID from the information database to the
14 extracted address of the information terminal device when the
15 information ID designating the information can be further
16 extracted from the received information request signal;
17 transmitting by wireless predetermined information stored in
18 the information database to the extracted address of the
19 information terminal device when the information ID
20 designating the information cannot be extracted from the
21 received information request signal.

1 Claim 149 (original): The method according to claim 143,
2 wherein
3 the information acquisition device performs
4 externally transmitting stored information or image data, or
5 the received information.

1 Claim 150 (original): The method according to claim 143,
2 wherein
3 the information acquisition device performs
4 transmitting stored information or image data, or the received
5 information to a predetermined destination address.

1 Claim 151 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein:
3 the information acquisition device performs:
4 generating an encryption key and a decryption key;
5 and
6 further adding the generated encryption key to the
7 information request signal;
8 the information providing device performs:

9 further extracting the encryption key from the received
10 information request signal;
11 encrypting the information read according to the
12 information request signal from the information database using
13 the extracted encryption key; and
14 transmitting by wireless the encrypted information to
15 the extracted address of the information terminal device; and
16 the information acquisition device performs:
17 decrypting the received information using the generated
18 decryption key; and
19 storing the decrypted information.

1 Claim 152 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein:
3 the information providing device performs
4 transmitting by wireless the information read according
5 to the request signal from the information database and the
6 information designation information for designating the
7 information to the extracted address of the information
8 acquisition device; and
9 the information acquisition device performs:
10 receiving the information transmitted by wireless and
11 the information designation information for designating the
12 information;
13 determining whether or not the received information has
14 already been acquired according to the information designation
15 information for designating the received information and
16 stored information designation information, and storing the
17 received information when it is determined that the
18 information has not been acquired; and
19 storing the information designation information designating
20 the received information.

1 Claim 153 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein:
3 the information providing device performs:
4 generating an encryption key and a decryption key;
5 and
6 transmitting by wireless the generated encryption key to
7 the extracted address of the information terminal device;
8 the information acquisition device performs:
9 receiving the encryption key transmitted by
10 wireless;
11 encrypting user information of the information
12 acquisition device using the received encryption key; and
13 further adding the encrypted user information to the
14 information request signal; and
15 the information providing device performs:
16 further extracting the encrypted user information from
17 the received information request signal;
18 decrypting the extracted user information using the
19 generated decryption key; and
20 transmitting by wireless the information read according to the
21 decrypted user information from the information database to
22 the extracted address of the information terminal device.

1 Claim 154 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein:
3 the information providing device performs
4 transmitting by wireless predetermined information
5 stored in the information database and the address of the
6 information providing device to the extracted address of the
7 information terminal device from the information request

8 signal when the information request signal transmitted by
9 wireless in the directivity direction is received;
10 the information acquisition device performs:
11 receiving the information transmitted by wireless and
12 the address of the information providing device;
13 presenting all or a part of stored information of the
14 received information on a display unit of the information
15 acquisition device;
16 selecting at least one information item from the
17 presented information; and
18 transmitting by wireless an information request signal
19 to which an information ID designating information
20 corresponding to the selected information item and the address
21 of the information acquisition device are added to the
22 received address of the information providing device; and
23 the information providing device performs:
24 receiving an information request signal transmitted by
25 wireless to the address of the information providing device;
26 extracting the information ID and the address of the
27 information acquisition device from the received information
28 request signal; and
29 transmitting by wireless the information read corresponding to
30 the extracted information ID from the information database to
31 the extracted address of the information terminal device.

1 Claim 155 (original): An information providing method for use
2 with an information providing system having an information
3 acquisition device which is provided with telephone functions
4 and acquires digital information and an information providing
5 device capable of providing information at an information
6 request from the information acquisition device, wherein:
7 the information acquisition device performs:

8 adding a telephone number of the information acquisition
9 device to an information request signal; and
10 transmitting by wireless the added information request
11 signal in a directivity direction;
12 the information providing device performs:
13 receiving the information request signal transmitted by
14 wireless in the directivity direction;
15 extracting the telephone number of the information
16 terminal device from the received information request signal;
17 and
18 transmitting information read from an information
19 database according to the information request signal to the
20 extracted telephone number of the information terminal device
21 using a public network; and
22 the information acquisition device performs:
23 receiving the transmitted information; and
24 storing the received information.

1 Claim 156 (original): The method according to claim 155,
2 wherein
3 the information acquisition device performs
4 receiving, regenerating, and transmitting common voice when a
5 communication signal is received.

1 Claim 157 (original): the method according to claim 135,
2 wherein
3 the information providing device performs
4 providing a plurality of reception units receiving the
5 information request signal, reading information corresponding
6 to the reception unit receiving the information request signal
7 from the information database, and transmitting by wireless

8 the read information to the extracted address of the
9 information terminal device.

1 Claim 158 (original): The method according to claim 144,
2 wherein:

3 the information providing device performs
4 transmitting by wireless a signal notifying that
5 information can be provided when the information can be
6 provided; and

7 the information acquisition device performs
8 acquiring information when a signal notifying that the
9 information can be provided can be detected in the directivity
10 direction.

1 Claim 159 (original): The method according to claim 136,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device performs
4 transmitting an information request signal to a server address
5 presented by the address information through the Internet when
6 the received information is the address information on the
7 network in which the information exists, and receiving
8 information corresponding to the information request signal
9 through the Internet.

1 Claim 160 (original): The method according to claim 145,
2 wherein:

3 the destination address is an address of the information
4 acquisition device; and

5 the information acquisition device performs:
6 analyzing whether or not the received information is
7 information relating to the set information type, and when the
8 received information is the information relating to the set

9 type of the information, storing the received information, and
10 otherwise giving a warning.

1 Claim 161 (original): The method according to claim 135,
2 wherein:

3 the address added to the information request signal in
4 the information acquisition device is a destination address
5 different from the address of the information acquisition
6 device; and

7 the information providing device performs
8 transmitting predetermined information read from the
9 information database storing the information to be provided
10 to the extracted destination address different from the source
11 of the information request signal.

1 Claim 162 (original): The method according to claim 161,
2 wherein

3 the information providing device performs:
4 storing the destination address each time the
5 predetermined information is transmitted to the destination
6 address; and
7 determining whether or not the destination address extracted
8 from the information request signal has been stored when the
9 information request signal is received, and transmitting or
10 not transmitting the predetermined information depending on
11 the determination result.

1 Claim 163 (original): The method according to claim 161,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device performs
4 further adding user information of the information
5 terminal device to the information request signal; and

6 the information providing device performs:
7 further extracting the user information from the
8 received information request signal;
9 determining a level of the user information from the
10 extracted user information; and
11 transmitting the information read from the information
12 database depending on the determined level of the user
13 information to the extracted destination address.

1 Claim 164 (original): The method according to claim 135,
2 wherein
3 the information providing device performs:
4 extracting the address from the received information
5 request signal;
6 transmitting the information request signal to the
7 destination different from the extracted destination address;
8 receiving returned information responding to the
9 transmitted information request signal; and
10 transmitting predetermined information read from the
11 information database storing information to be provided and
12 the received and returned information to the extracted
13 address.

1 Claim 165 (original): An information acquisition program
2 which is a computer program executed by an information
3 acquisition device having:
4 an information storage unit which is built in and freely
5 attached and removed and stores information;
6 a first transmission unit having directivity and
7 transmitting by wireless an information request to be
8 transmitted in a directivity direction; and

9 a reception unit having no directivity or having broader
10 directivity than the first transmission unit, wherein:
11 an information request signal to be transmitted is
12 generated;
13 at least one piece of address information is added to the
14 generated information request signal;
15 the information request signal to which at least one
16 piece of address information is added is transmitted from the
17 first transmission unit in the directivity direction;
18 the reception unit receives a radio signal transmitted by
19 wireless in response to the information request signal
20 transmitted from the first transmission unit; and
21 the storage unit stores all or a part of information
22 contained in the signal.

1 Claim 166 (original): The program according to claim 165,
2 wherein

3 the first transmission unit transmits by wireless the
4 information request signal using an electromagnetic wave
5 including light and a sound wave including ultrasonic.

1 Claim 167 (original): The program according to claim 166,
2 wherein

3 the address added to the information request signal is
4 own address as an address of the reception unit of the
5 information acquisition device.

1 Claim 168 (currently amended): the The program according to
2 claim 167, wherein

3 the address added to the information request signal
4 includes an address different from the address of the
5 reception unit of the information acquisition device.

1 Claim 169 (original): The program according to claim 167,
2 wherein
3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 information presentation unit for presenting information; and
5 the information presentation unit presents all or a part
6 of the information stored in the information storage unit or
7 the information acquired by the reception unit.

1 Claim 170 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein
3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 information transmission unit for transmitting information;
5 and
6 the information transmission unit externally transmits
7 the information stored in the information storage unit or the
8 information acquired by the receiving function.

1 Claim 171 (original): The program according to claim 170,
2 wherein:
3 the information stored in the information storage unit is
4 selected; and
5 the information transmission unit externally transmits the
6 selected information.

1 Claim 172 (original): The program according to claim
2 170, wherein
3 the information transmission unit transmits information
4 to an address indicating a predetermined destination.

1 Claim 173 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein:

3 information relating to a type of information received
4 and acquired by the reception unit is set; and
5 the information relating to the type of the set
6 information is added to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 174 (original): The program according to claim 173,
2 wherein
3 the information to be acquired from the information
4 received by the reception unit is selected, and the selected
5 information is stored in the information storage unit.

1 Claim 175 (original): The program according to claim 174,
2 wherein
3 standards of the selection is a set type of the
4 information, and only information of the type is stored in the
5 information storage unit.

1 Claim 176 (original): The program according to claim 173,
2 wherein
3 the information relating to the type of information
4 relates to at least one of a size of information, a type of
5 information, a style of information, a file format of
6 information, a content of information, and a field of
7 information.

1 Claim 177 (original): The program according to claim 173,
2 wherein
3 the information relating to a type of information refers
4 to information indicating a same target and a different type
5 of information size.

1 Claim 178 (original): The program according to claim 177,
2 wherein
3 the information relating to a type of information
4 includes information relating to at least one piece of common
5 information, summary information obtained by summarizing the
6 common information, and address information in a network
7 containing information.

1 Claim 179 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein
3 a server address designating an information providing
4 source contained in the information acquired by the reception
5 unit is extracted.

1 Claim 180 (original): The program according to claim 179,
2 wherein
3 the information acquisition device further comprises a
4 second transmission unit transmitting a signal in a style
5 different from a style of the first transmission unit;
6 the second transmission unit transmits by wireless a signal
7 using an electromagnetic wave including light and a sound wave
8 including ultrasonic, and the signal transmitted by wireless
9 from the second transmission unit has no directivity or has
10 broader directivity than the signal transmitted by the first
11 transmission unit.

1 Claim 181 (original): The program according to claim 180,
2 wherein
3 when the information received by the reception unit is
4 address information in a network in which the information
5 exists, the second transmission unit transmits an information
6 request signal to the extracted server address.

1 Claim 182 (original): The program according to claim 180,
2 wherein:
3 selecting at least an information item from the
4 information presented by the information presentation unit;
5 adding information ID designating information
6 corresponding to the selected information item selected by the
7 selection unit to the signal to be transmitted; and
8 the first transmission unit or the second transmission
9 unit transmits the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 183 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein
3 a warning is given when the information acquired by the
4 reception unit is incomplete or when it is determined that
5 information cannot be completely acquired.

1 Claim 184 (original): The program according to claim 180,
2 wherein
3 the first transmission unit or the second transmission
4 unit retransmits the signal to be transmitted when the
5 information acquired by the reception unit is incomplete or
6 when it is determined that information cannot be completely
7 acquired.

1 Claim 185 (original): The program according to claim 183,
2 wherein
3 a warning is given when a size of the information
4 acquired by the reception unit exceeds a predetermined size or
5 a free storage capacity of the information storage unit.

1 Claim 186 (original): The program according to claim 183,
2 wherein

3 a warning is given when the information received and
4 acquired by the reception unit relates to a size of
5 continually transmitted information, and the size of the
6 information exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage
7 capacity of the information storage unit.

1 Claim 187 (original): The program according to claim 184,
2 wherein

3 when the information size acquired by the reception unit
4 exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage capacity of the
5 information storage unit, the information is automatically
6 changed to the information relating to a type of information
7 of a smaller size, the information relating to the type of
8 information is added to the signal to be transmitted, and the
9 first transmission unit or the second transmission unit
10 retransmits the added signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 188 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein:

3 a maximum value of a size of information that can be
4 received and acquired by the reception unit is set; and
5 information relating to the set maximum value of the
6 information size that can be acquired is added to the signal
7 to be transmitted.

1 Claim 189 (original): The program according to claim 188,
2 wherein

3 the maximum size value of the information that can be
4 acquired into the free storage capacity of the information
5 storage unit is set automatically.

1 Claim 190 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises a
4 user information storage unit storing information relating to
5 a user of the information acquisition device; and
6 the information relating to the user of the information
7 acquisition device stored in the user information storage unit
8 is added to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 191 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 equipment information storage unit storing equipment
5 information about the information acquisition device; and
6 the equipment information about the information
7 acquisition device stored in the equipment information storage
8 unit is added to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 192 (original): The program according to claim 191,
2 wherein

3 the equipment information contains at least one or more
4 of a maker name of the information acquisition device, a model
5 number, a product serial number, and version information about
6 firmware.

1 Claim 193 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 information acquisition history storage unit storing
5 information designation information designating the
6 information received by the reception unit;

7 it is determined whether or not information newly
8 received by the reception unit has been acquired before
9 according to the information designation information about the
10 newly received information; and
11 the information storage unit stores information determined by
12 the acquired information determination unit that the
13 information has not been acquired among the information
14 received by the reception unit.

1 Claim 194 (original): The program according to claim 193,
2 wherein

3 the information designation information stored in the
4 information acquisition history storage unit is information
5 containing at least either one of an address of a device which
6 transmits the signal received by the reception unit or the
7 information ID assigned to the information received by the
8 reception unit.

1 Claim 195 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein

3 it is detected that there is an information providing
4 device capable of providing information for the information
5 acquisition device in the direction of the directivity.

1 Claim 196 (original): The program according to claim 195,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 issued signal reception unit receiving an issued signal from
5 the information providing device; and

6 it is notified that there is the information providing
7 device detected when the issued signal is received by the
8 issued signal reception unit.

1 Claim 197 (original): The program according to claim 195,
2 wherein

3 when the presence of the information providing device is
4 not detected, an information acquiring operation is not
5 performed.

1 Claim 198 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein

3 a program update unit extracting a control program, and
4 updating all or a part of the control program stored in the
5 program memory to be updated based on the control program when
6 the control program of the information acquisition device is
7 contained in the signal received by the reception unit.

1 Claim 199 (original): The program according to claim 198,
2 wherein:

3 it is detected whether or not an unreasonable program is
4 contained in the information acquired by the reception unit;
5 and

6 when it is detected that an unreasonable program is
7 contained in the information acquired by the reception unit, a
8 warning is given and the acquired information is deleted.

1 Claim 200 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein

3 all or a part of the information added to the signal to
4 be transmitted is encrypted using an encryption key contained
5 in the information received and acquired by the reception
6 unit.

1 Claim 201 (original): The program according to claim 200,
2 wherein
3 the encryption key request information is added to the
4 signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 202 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein:
3 an encryption key and a decryption key are generated;
4 the generated encryption key is added to the signal to be
5 transmitted; and
6 the encrypted information contained in the signal received by
7 the reception unit is decrypted using the generated decryption
8 key.

1 Claim 203 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein
3 the reception unit uses a public network, and can receive,
4 regenerate, and communicate common sound through the public
5 network.

1 Claim 204 (original): The program according to claim 169,
2 wherein:
3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 image capturing unit obtaining image data by capturing a
5 subject image in a same direction as the directivity direction
6 of the signal transmitted by the first transmission unit:
7 the information storage unit stores the image data
8 acquired by the image capturing unit in addition to the
9 information acquired by the reception unit; and
10 the information presentation unit all or a part of the
11 information or image data stored in the information storage

12 unit, the information acquired by the reception unit, or the
13 image data obtained by the image capturing unit.

1 Claim 205 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein:

3 at least one of a mode of acquiring only information, a
4 mode of acquiring only an image, and a mode of acquiring both
5 information and an image is set.

1 Claim 206 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 information transmission unit for transmitting information;
5 and
6 the information transmission unit externally transmits the
7 information or image data stored in the information storage
8 unit, the information acquired by the reception unit, or the
9 image data obtained by the image capturing unit.

1 Claim 207 (original): The program according to claim 206,
2 wherein:

3 the information or the image data stored in the
4 information storage unit is selected; and
5 the information transmission unit externally transmits the
6 selected information or the image data.

1 Claim 208 (original): The program according to claim 207,
2 wherein

3 the information transmission unit transmits information
4 to an address indicating a predetermined destination.

1 Claim 209 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein:

3 information relating to a type of information received
4 and acquired by the reception unit is set; and
5 the information relating to the type of the set
6 information is added to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 210 (original): The program according to claim 209,
2 wherein

3 the information to be acquired from the information
4 received by the reception unit is selected, and the selected
5 information is stored in the information storage unit.

1 Claim 211 (original): The program according to claim 210,
2 wherein
3 standards of the selection is a type of the set
4 information, and only information of the type is stored in the
5 information storage unit.

1 Claim 212 (original): The program according to claim 209,
2 wherein

3 the information relating to the type of information
4 relates to at least one of a size of information, a type of
5 information, a style of information, a file format of
6 information, a content of information and a field of
7 information.

1 Claim 213 (original): The program according to claim 177,
2 wherein
3 the information relating to a type of information refers
4 to information indicating a same target and a different type
5 of information size.

1 Claim 214 (original): The program according to claim 213,
2 wherein
3 the information relating to a type of information
4 includes information relating to at least one piece of common
5 information, summary information obtained by summarizing the
6 common information, and address information in a network
7 containing information.

1 Claim 215 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein
3 a server address designating an information providing
4 source contained in the information acquired by the reception
5 unit is extracted.

1 Claim 216 (original): The program according to claim 215,
2 wherein
3 the information acquisition device further comprises a
4 second transmission unit transmitting a signal in a style
5 different from a style of the first transmission unit;
6 the second transmission unit transmits by wireless a signal
7 using an electromagnetic wave including light and a sound wave
8 including ultrasonic, and the signal transmitted by wireless
9 from the second transmission unit has no directivity or has
10 broader directivity than the signal transmitted by the first
11 transmission unit.

1 Claim 217 (original): The program according to claim 216,
2 wherein
3 when the information received by the reception unit is
4 address information in a network in which the information

5 exists, the second transmission unit transmits an information
6 request signal to the extracted server address.

1 Claim 218 (original): The program according to claim 216,
2 wherein:

3 selecting at least an information item from the
4 information presented by the information presentation unit;
5 adding information ID designating information
6 corresponding to the selected information item selected by the
7 selection unit to the signal to be transmitted; and
8 the first transmission unit or the second transmission
9 unit transmits the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 219 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein

3 a warning is given when the information acquired by the
4 reception unit is incomplete or when it is determined that
5 information cannot be completely acquired.

1 Claim 220 (original): The program according to claim 216,
2 wherein

3 the first transmission unit or the second transmission
4 unit retransmits the signal to be transmitted when the
5 information acquired by the reception unit is incomplete or
6 when it is determined that information cannot be completely
7 acquired.

1 Claim 221 (original): The program according to claim 219,
2 wherein

3 a warning is given when a size of the information
4 acquired by the reception unit exceeds a predetermined size or
5 a free storage capacity of the information storage unit.

1 Claim 222 (original): The program according to claim 219,
2 wherein

3 a warning is given when the information received and
4 acquired by the reception unit relates to a size of
5 continually transmitted information, and the size of the
6 information exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage
7 capacity of the information storage unit.

1 Claim 223 (original): The program according to claim 219,
2 wherein

3 when the information size acquired by the reception unit
4 exceeds a predetermined size or a free storage capacity of the
5 information storage unit, the information is automatically
6 changed to the information relating to a type of information
7 of a smaller size, the information relating to the type of
8 information is added to the signal to be transmitted, and the
9 first transmission unit or the second transmission unit
10 retransmits the added signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 224 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein:

3 a maximum size value of information that can be received
4 and acquired by the reception unit is set; and
5 information relating to the set maximum size value of the
6 information that can be acquired is added to the signal to be
7 transmitted.

1 Claim 225 (original): The program according to claim 224,
2 wherein

3 the maximum size value of the information that can be
4 acquired into the free storage capacity of the information
5 storage unit is set automatically.

1 Claim 226 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises a
4 user information storage unit storing information relating to
5 a user of the information acquisition device; and

6 the information relating to the user of the information
7 acquisition device stored in the user information storage unit
8 is added to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 227 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein

3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 equipment information storage unit storing equipment
5 information about the information acquisition device; and

6 the equipment information about the information
7 acquisition device stored in the equipment information storage
8 unit is added to the signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 228 (original): The program according to claim 227,
2 wherein

3 the equipment information contains at least one or more
4 of a maker name of the information acquisition device, a model
5 number, a product serial number, and version information about
6 firmware.

1 Claim 229 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 information acquisition history storage unit storing
5 information designation information designating the
6 information received by the reception unit;

7 it is determined whether or not information newly
8 received by the reception unit has been acquired already or
9 not according to the information designation information about
10 the newly received information; and
11 the information storage unit stores information determined by
12 the acquired information determination unit that the
13 information has not been acquired among the information
14 received by the reception unit.

1 Claim 230 (original): The program according to claim 229,
2 wherein

3 the information designation information stored in the
4 information acquisition history storage unit is information
5 containing at least either one of an address of a device which
6 transmits the signal received by the reception unit or the
7 information ID assigned to the information received by the
8 reception unit.

1 Claim 231 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein

3 it is detected that there is an information providing
4 device capable of providing information for the information
5 acquisition device in the direction of the directivity.

1 Claim 232 (original): The program according to claim 231,
2 wherein:

3 the information acquisition device further comprises an
4 issued signal reception unit receiving an issued signal from
5 the information providing device; and

6 it is notified that there is the information providing
7 device detected when the issued signal is received by the
8 issued signal reception unit.

1 Claim 233 (original): The program according to claim 231,
2 wherein

3 when the presence of the information providing device is
4 not detected, an information acquiring operation is not
5 performed.

1 Claim 234 (original): The program according to claim 231,
2 wherein

3 when existence of the information providing device is not
4 detected, and when a mode of acquiring both information and an
5 image is set, only an image is captured as in the mode of
6 acquiring only an image.

1 Claim 235 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein

3 a program update unit extracting a control program, and
4 updating all or a part of the control program stored in the
5 program memory to be updated based on the control program when
6 the control program of the information acquisition device is
7 contained in the signal received by the reception unit.

1 Claim 236 (original): The program according to claim 235,
2 wherein:

3 it is detected whether or not an unreasonable program is
4 contained in the information acquired by the reception unit;
5 and

6 when it is detected that an unreasonable program is
7 contained in the information acquired by the reception unit, a
8 warning is given and the acquired information is deleted.

1 Claim 237 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein

3 all or a part of the information added to the signal to
4 be transmitted is encrypted using an encryption key contained
5 in the information received and acquired by the reception
6 unit.

1 Claim 238 (original): The program according to claim 237,
2 wherein

3 the encryption key request information is added to the
4 signal to be transmitted.

1 Claim 239 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein:
3 an encryption key and a decryption key are generated;
4 the generated encryption key is added to the signal to be
5 transmitted; and
6 the encrypted information contained in the signal received by
7 the reception unit is decrypted using the generated decryption
8 key.

1 Claim 240 (original): The program according to claim 204,
2 wherein

3 the reception unit uses a public network, and can receive,
4 regenerate, and communicate common voice through the public
5 network.

1 Claim 241 (currently amended): An information providing
2 program as a computer program executed by a information
3 providing device capable of providing information at an
4 information request from at least from the information
5 acquisition device, comprising:

6 an information database storing information to be
7 provided;

8 a first information reception unit receiving a request
9 signal transmitted by wireless from a first transmission unit
10 having the directivity of any information acquisition device
11 according to ~~claims 1 through 76~~claim 1; and

12 a first information transmission unit transmitting
13 information, wherein:

14 a destination address designating a destination of
15 information is extracted from the request signal received by
16 the first information reception unit; and

17 the information to be provided read according to the
18 request signal from the information database is transmitted by
19 wireless from the first information transmission unit to the
20 destination address according to the extracted address
21 information.

1 Claim 242 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein

3 the extracted destination address is own address as an
4 address of a reception unit receiving the provided information
5 of the information acquisition device, and the first
6 information transmission unit transmits by wireless the

7 information being provided read from the information database
8 at the request signal to the own address.

1 Claim 243 (original): The program according to claim 242,
2 wherein:

3 The information providing device further comprises a
4 second information reception unit receiving the signal
5 transmitted by wireless from the second transmission unit of
6 the information acquisition device in addition to the first
7 information reception unit; and

8 the first information transmission unit transmits the
9 address of second information reception unit to the
10 destination address extracted by the request extraction unit.

1 Claim 244 (original): The program according to claim 242,
2 wherein

3 when an information ID designating information is
4 extracted from the request signal received by the first
5 information reception unit or the second information reception
6 unit, the first information transmission unit transmits by
7 wireless the information corresponding to the information ID
8 stored in the information database, and when the information
9 ID is not extracted from the request signal received by the
10 first information reception unit, the first information
11 transmission unit transmits by wireless predetermined
12 information stored in the information database.

1 Claim 245 (original): The program according to claim 244,
2 wherein

3 when the information ID is not extracted from the request
4 signal received by the first information reception unit, the
5 first information transmission unit transmits by wireless

6 index information about information which can be provided and
7 stored in the information database.

1 Claim 246 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein

3 the information relating to the type of the requested
4 information is extracted from the request signal received by
5 the first information reception unit; and

6 the first information transmission unit transmits by
7 wireless the information read from the information database
8 according to the information relating to the type of the
9 extracted information.

1 Claim 247 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein

3 the information transmitted by the first information
4 transmission unit is encrypted.

1 Claim 248 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein
3 the information providing device further comprises a
4 signal transmission unit transmitting by wireless a signal for
5 notification that information can be provided.

1 Claim 249 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein:

3 the first information reception unit comprises a
4 plurality of reception units each of which is associated with
5 information to be provided;

6 information associated with a reception unit receiving
7 the request signal is selected;

8 the selected information is read from the information
9 database; and
10 the read information is transmitted from the first information
11 transmission function.

1 Claim 250 (original): The program according to claim 242,
2 wherein:

3 the information providing device further comprises a
4 program information database storing a control program
5 controlling and operating a device;
6 equipment information about the information acquisition
7 device is extracted from the request signal received by the
8 first information reception unit; and
9 the first information transmission unit transmits a
10 control program read corresponding to the equipment
11 information extracted from the program information database.

1 Claim 251 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein
3 user information is extracted from a signal received by
4 the first information reception unit, and the first
5 information transmission unit transmits the information to be
6 provided read corresponding to the user information from the
7 information database to the extracted address.

1 Claim 252 (original): The program according to claim 251,
2 wherein:

3 a level of the user information is determined from the
4 extracted user information; and
5 the information to be transmitted by the first
6 information transmission unit to the extracted destination

7 address is read from the information database corresponding to
8 the level of the determined user information.

1 Claim 253 (original): The program according to claim 242,
2 wherein:

3 an encryption key and a decryption key are generated;
4 the first information transmission unit transmits the
5 generated encryption key to the destination address according
6 to the extracted address information; and
7 encrypted information contained in the signal received by the
8 first information reception unit or the second information
9 reception unit is decrypted by the generated decryption key.

1 Claim 254 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein:

3 the information providing device further comprises an
4 information providing history database storing the destination
5 address when the first information transmission unit transmits
6 information to be provided to the destination address;

7 it is determined whether or not the extracted destination
8 address has been stored;

9 the first information transmission unit transmits or does
10 not transmit predetermined information read from the
11 information database to the extracted destination address
12 depending on the determination result.

1 Claim 255 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein:

3 The information providing device further comprises an
4 information providing history database storing a destination
5 address to which the first information transmission unit
6 transmits information to be provided and ID information about

7 the information to be provided for designation of the
8 information to be provided with the address and the ID
9 information associated with each other;

10 it is determined whether or not the extracted destination
11 address and the ID information about the information to be
12 provided read from the information database are associated and
13 stored in the information providing history database, and

14 the first information transmission unit transmits or does
15 not transmit request information read from the information
16 database to the extracted destination address depending on the
17 determination result.

1 Claim 256 (original): The program according to 241, wherein:

2 the information providing device further comprises a
3 second information transmission unit different from the first
4 information transmission unit;

5 own address and a second address different from the own
6 address are extracted from the signal received by the first
7 information reception unit;

8 the second information transmission unit transmits the
9 information to be provided read from the information database
10 and the extracted information using the second address as a
11 destination address; and

12 the first information transmission unit transmits, to the
13 own address, transmission result information notifying that
14 the information to be provided has been transmitted to the
15 destination address of the extracted information.

1 Claim 257 (original): The program according to 256, wherein

2 when a destination address designating a destination of
3 information different from the own address is not contained in
4 the signal received by the first information reception unit,

5 the first information transmission unit transmits the
6 information to be provided to the extracted own address.

1 Claim 258 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein:

3 the information providing device further comprises a
4 third information transmission unit different from the first
5 information transmission unit and a third information
6 reception unit receiving a returned signal responding to a
7 signal transmitted by the third information transmission unit;

8 request information contained in the signal received by
9 the first information reception unit is extracted;

10 the third information transmission unit transmits a
11 second request signal containing the information request to a
12 predetermined address;

13 the third information reception unit receives a returned
14 signal in response to the second request signal; and

15 the first information transmission unit transmits the
16 information contained in the returned signal received by the
17 third information reception unit to the destination address.

1 Claim 259 (original): The program according to claim 258,
2 wherein

3 information relating to a type of information is
4 extracted from the signal received by the first information
5 reception unit;

6 the third information transmission unit transmits a
7 information request signal containing the information relating
8 to the type of information to a second information providing
9 device capable of providing information corresponding to the
10 information relating to the type of information when the
11 information corresponding to the information relating to the

12 type of the extracted information is not stored in the
13 information database; and

14 when the information corresponding to the information
15 relating to the type of information transmitted by the second
16 information providing device is received by the third
17 information reception unit, the first information transmission
18 unit transmits the information corresponding to the
19 information relating to the type of information to the
20 extracted destination address.

1 Claim 260 (original): The program according to claim 258,
2 wherein:

3 the equipment information about a source of the signal
4 received by the first information reception unit is extracted;
5 when the information corresponding to the extracted
6 equipment information is stored in the information database,
7 the third information transmission unit transmits the
8 information read from the information database corresponding
9 to the equipment information and predetermined information
10 read from the information database to the extracted
11 destination address; or

12 when the information corresponding to the extracted
13 equipment information is not stored in the information
14 database, the third information transmission unit transmits
15 the information request signal containing the equipment
16 information to the second information providing device capable
17 of providing the information corresponding to the equipment
18 information; and

19 when the information corresponding to the equipment
20 information transmitted by the second information providing
21 device is received by the third information reception unit,
22 the first information transmission unit transmits the

23 information corresponding to the equipment information and the
24 predetermined information read from the information database
25 to the extracted destination address.

1 Claim 261 (original): The program according to claim 259,
2 wherein:

3 a second information providing device capable of
4 providing information corresponding to the information
5 relating to the type of information is designated;

6 the third information transmission unit transmits the
7 information relating to the type of the information to the
8 designated second information providing device.

1 Claim 262 (original): The program according to claim 260,
2 wherein:

3 a second information providing device capable of
4 providing information corresponding to the equipment
5 information is designated;

6 the third information transmission unit transmits the
7 equipment information to the designated second information
8 providing device.

1 Claim 263 (original): The program according to claim 262,
2 wherein

3 the distribution contains at least one or more of a maker
4 name of the information acquisition device, a model number, a
5 product serial number, and version information about firmware.

1 Claim 264 (original): The program according to claim 241,
2 wherein
3 the information transmitted by the first information
4 transmission unit is modified.

1 Claim 265 (original): The program according to claim 264,
2 wherein

3 the modification of the information is compression or
4 encryption of information.